



National Institutes of Health  
National Institute of  
Environmental Health Sciences  
NTP Interagency Center for the Evaluation  
of Alternative Toxicological Methods  
P. O. Box 12233  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  
<http://iccvam.niehs.nih.gov>

July 10, 2009

Dr. Christine Augustyniak  
U.S. National Coordinator for the  
OECD Test Guidelines Program  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Ariel Rios Building, Mail Code 7509P  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Dr. Augustyniak:

We have recently been made aware of a notification from OECD requesting public comments on the draft proposed OECD *Draft Guidance Document on a Threshold for Fish Acute Toxicity*, with a requested deadline of July 10, 2009. ICCVAM and the ATWG previously provided comments on the original draft proposed Guidance Document in September 2008. We are pleased to see that the revised draft has been updated to reflect the comments that were provided. While we do not have additional comments at this time, we are responding on behalf of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods (ICCVAM) and the ICCVAM Acute Toxicity Working Group (ATWG) to express our support for the Guidance Document. We ask that you forward this comment expeditiously to the OECD Secretariat for consideration by the member countries as part of the U.S. position on this document. We also ask that you share with us any other U.S. comments that were provided so that we can make them available to ICCVAM and the ATWG.

We believe that expeditious adoption of this proposed Guidance Document would support further reduction and refinement of animal use for acute toxicity testing. Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have questions about the comments.

Sincerely,

/s/

William S. Stokes, D.V.M., D.A.C.L.A.M.  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Public Health Service  
Director, NTP Interagency Center for  
the Evaluation of Alternative  
Toxicological Methods (NICEATM)  
National Institute of Environmental  
Health Sciences

Marilyn L. Wind, Ph.D.  
Chair, Interagency Coordinating  
Committee on the Validation of  
Alternative Methods (ICCVAM)  
Deputy Associate Executive Director  
Directorate for Health Sciences  
U.S. Consumer Product Safety  
Commission